

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – February 13, 2022

- Good afternoon.

As everyone has likely seen, we have slow rolls and protests occurring across the country.

- I won't go into detail on all of them, but will instead focus in on the following areas – Windsor and Ottawa, Emerson and Coutts and provide a very brief overview of the situation in BC.
- We'll start with Ontario and then make our way West.

Windsor

- The situation in Windsor is largely unchanged. The crowds have moved back and greatly reduced in number.
- Enforcement has started and there have been 14 arrests and 3 vehicles towed. All charges were for Mischief. Arrests are to continue today.
- A traffic plan is being finalized to re-open the bridge.
- 25 RCMP resources are being deployed to assist Windsor Police and the OPP.
- There are 50-100 officers in Windsor.

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Ottawa

- As of this morning the intersection of Sussex and Rideau has been fortified with tractor trucks parked tightly together. The mood at this intersection was described as defiant.
- We are also monitoring a number of convoys that are expected to arrive in Ottawa today. As of about 11AM, there are about 25 protestors on Parliament Hill, and 5 on Wellington Street and in the downtown. There are an estimated 505 trucks as well.
- In terms of our current deployment numbers in support of the OPS, the RCMP has 225 members, with the OPP currently at 233. This is representative of two daily shift rotations.
- With respect to Public Order Units, there is 33 from Durham, 32 from York, and 42 OPP members deployed.
- The RCMP also continue to have approximately 345 members deployed daily in support of our protective mandate.

The Plan

- About the much talked about plan, I propose to provide some key highlights today, with the intent that I'll provide the Minister with a more detailed briefing tomorrow.
- The plan was developed in partnership between the OPP, RCMP, OPS, and PPS, among others (e.g., York, Peel and TPS), with ultimate responsibility resting with Chief Sloly as the jurisdictional lead.
- I've previously indicated that both Commissioner Carrique and I are supportive of the plan.

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- It provides for a phased approach, with the first goal being a reduction of protest footprint, including vehicles, trucks, and pedestrians.
- It includes significant cooperation, is scalable, measurable, and one that is to be monitored daily, so adjustments can be made as needed.
- A critical aspect is the on-the-ground messaging by regular uniformed officers, aimed at changing the crowd's mentality and getting them to leave voluntarily.
- I'll flag that this is what was used at Coutts, to get them from 200 trucks to 40.
- As each day progresses the tone and messaging will get progressively more serious. Stronger warnings of fines, arrests, and detention will be made.
- At all times, our focus remains on minimizing the impact to public safety and only using the necessary level of intervention required.
- Another key component to this plan is ensuring that all public interactions speak the same lines as the officers on the ground.
- Daily messaging will be provided by the OPS to ensure all levels of policing in Ottawa and across the country have the same clear and consistent language
- Going back briefly to my earlier mention of the resource numbers on the ground, I wanted to flag that this will constantly evolve as the plan progresses.

Now moving West from Ontario.

In terms of Emerson

- There is no significant change from yesterday – the blockade at the Emerson POE is still in place.

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- The focus remains to get lanes opened and to ending the blockade.
- The protest group has been informed of potential charges under the Criminal Code and provincial legislation.
- The protest group and their lawyer are meeting with the police this afternoon following their church service at 2:30pm (local time).
- All other POEs remain open.

For Coutts

- The situation remains largely unchanged; Highway 4 remains completely blocked at the POE.
- Plans are in place for an intervention.

In terms of British Columbia

- Yesterday, “Freedom Convoy Protests” occurred in multiple locations across the province - primarily in Victoria, Vancouver, Kelowna, Fort St. John and the Osoyoos and Surrey border crossings.
 - A 3000-5000 vehicle convoy in the Lower mainland reached the 176th Street border crossing, a key economic crossing.
 - The crowd estimate was at roughly a thousand, but numbers dropped significantly overnight – **estimated at approximately 50 this morning but the numbers go up and down.**
 - **There has been one arrest** and no injury to police or to the public.
- On the radar for today, there are small convoys expected in Barrier, BC, and Central Kootenay/Nelson areas. Numbers are not yet known.

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Additional Supports

- As already mentioned, we are actively engaged in the discussion on the implications of the Emergencies Act and we are exploring what measures may be available from an operational perspective.
- We are in the process of identifying other tools that can be leveraged to assist to prevent, mitigate or intervene in the protests/blockades we are seeing in Ottawa and across the country and have a preliminary list.
- My team is meeting with **Solicitor** **Client** colleagues later this afternoon and will be sending our input in through **Solicitor**

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